# 2009 OIB Antarctic data status Multichannel Coherent Radar Depth Sounder – MCoRDS







## Radar depth sounding of polar ice

## Multichannel Coherent Radar Depth Sounder (MCoRDS)

**Platforms:** 

DC-8

Transmit power: 500 W
Center frequency: 195 MHz

Pulse duration: 1, 10, or 30  $\mu$ s

Pulse bandwidth: 10 or 30 MHz

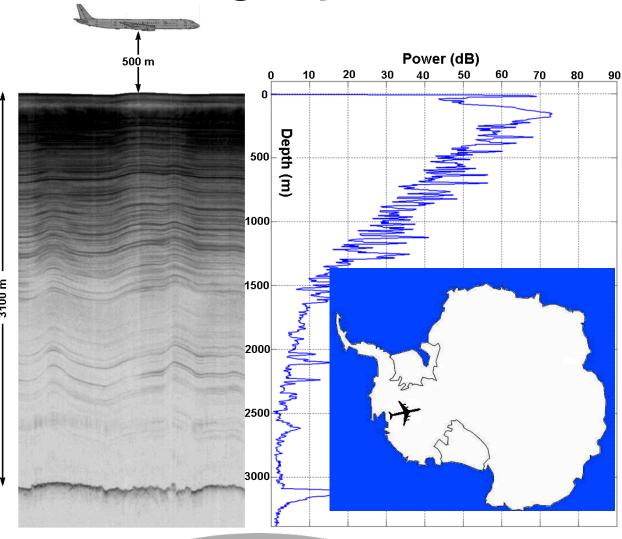
PRF: 9 kHz

Rx noise figure: 5 dB

Tx/Rx antenna array: 5 elements Element type: λ/4 dipole

Provides excellent sensitivity for mapping ice thickness and internal layers along the ground track.

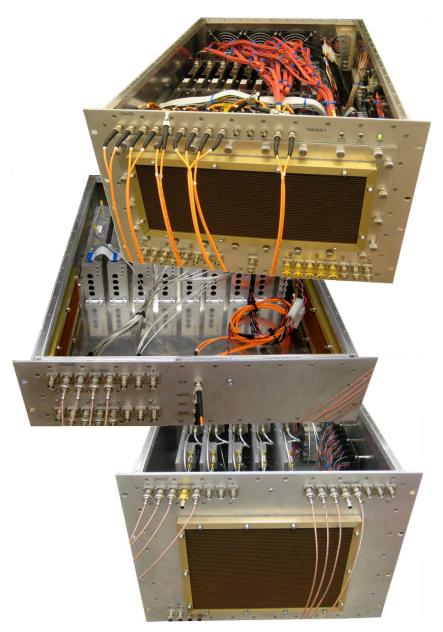


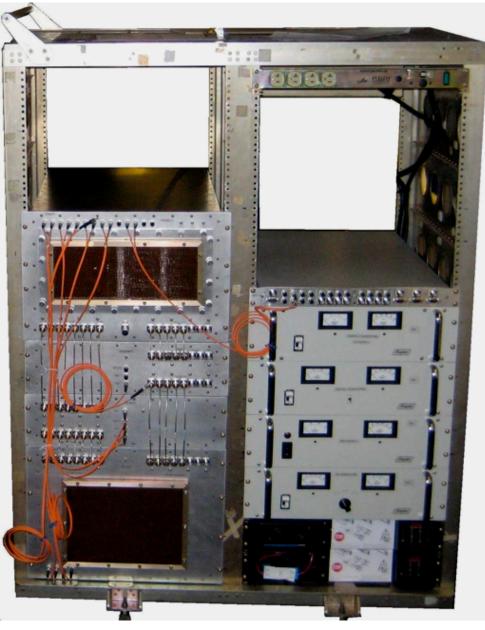




#### Sensor hardware for OIB DC-8

MCoRDS electronics

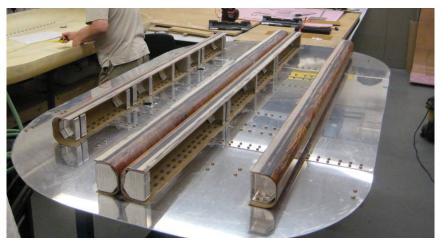




#### Sensor hardware for OIB DC-8

MCoRDS antenna and fairing hardware



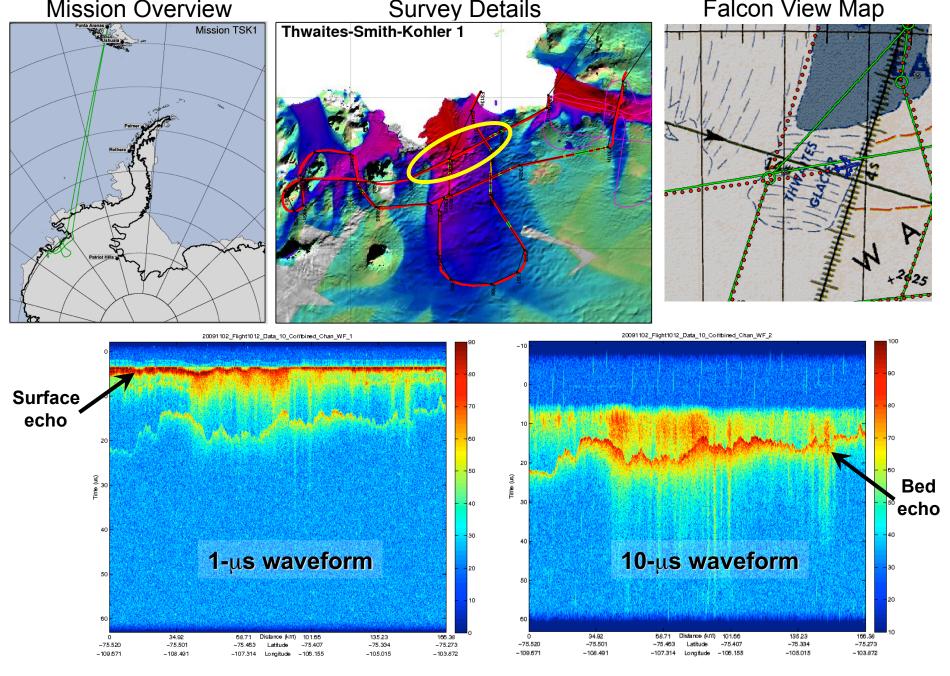






Example data from 02-Nov-09 Flight #12 TSK1 Mission

Mission Overview Survey Details Falcon View Map



### Challenges with data reduction

#### Data volume

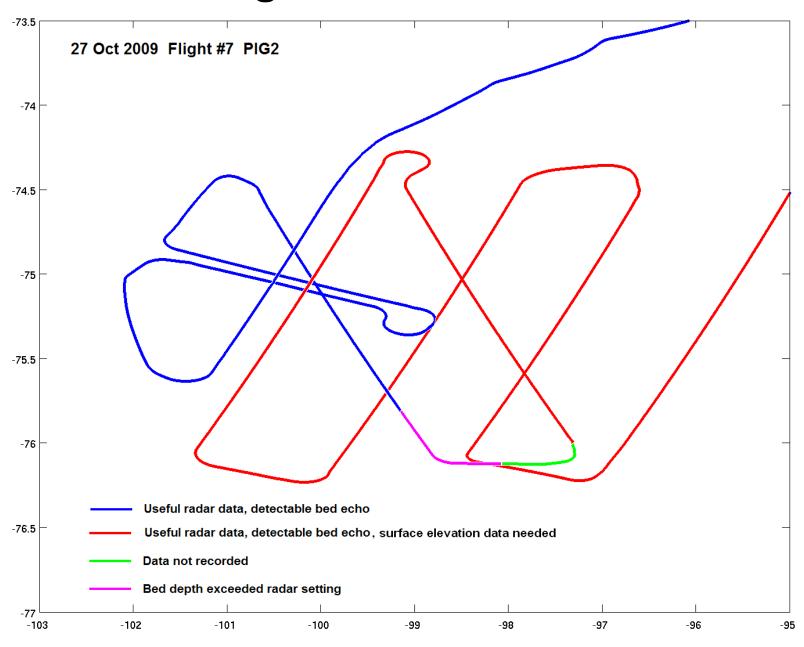
22 TB from OIB exceeded CReSIS storage capacity CReSIS recently added 116 TB of storage capacity OIB MCoRDS data also being stored/processed at Indiana University (CReSIS partner)

#### Radar recording problem on Oct 27 & 28

Radar settings caused system glitch and surface echo data were not recorded

Must rely on surface elevation data produced by others

## Challenges with data reduction



### MCoRDS data summary and status

Flight #	Date	Survey Area	Data Set Volume (GB)	Priority	Planned completion
1	10/16/2009	GETZ	1256	2	2/19/2010
2	10/18/2009	TSK2	1230	2	2/19/2010
3	10/20/2009	Pine Island (High Alt)	1016	2	2/19/2010
4	10/21/2009	Sealce2			
5	10/24/2009	Sealce1			
6	10/25/2009	86 Arc (High Alt)	1280	2	2/19/2010
7	10/27/2009	PIG2	1684	1	1/29/2010 [1]
8	10/28/2009	TSK3	616	2	1/29/2010
9	10/29/2009	PIG1	1416	1	1/29/2010
10	10/30/2009	Sealce3			
11	10/31/2009	PEN2	1360*	3	3/26/2010
12	11/2/2009	TSK1	1216	2	2/19/2010
13	11/3/2009	PEN1	1280	3	3/26/2010
14	11/4/2009	PEN3	2000	1	1/29/2010 [2]
					3/26/2010
15	11/5/2009	Peninsula (High Alt)	1624	3	3/26/2010
16	11/7/2009	PIG3	1392	1	1/29/2010
17	11/9/2009	PIG4	1184	1	1/29/2010
18	11/12/2009	ABBOTT	980	3	3/26/2010
19	11/15/2009	PEN4	1232	3	3/26/2010
20	11/16/2009	PEN5	1552	3	3/26/2010
21	11/21/2009	TSK4	912	2	2/19/2010

PIG: Pine Island; TSK: Thwaites, Smith, Kohler

[1] Ice surface elevation data needed to complete processing

[2] Crane Glacier portion to be processed first, remainder of flight to be processed later

**Deliverables** (to be posted on CReSIS web site):

- 1. Ice thickness and bed elevation files
- 2. Ice thickness and bed elevation maps (3D for grids, 2D for single lines)

#### Science data products

#### Ice thickness data

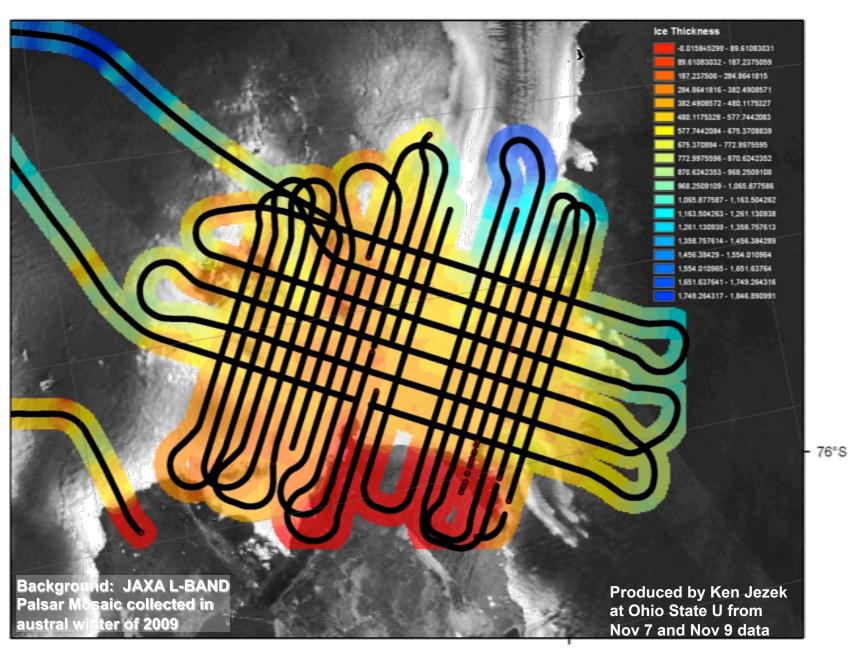
- indexed with GPS coordinates
- about 5-m thickness accuracy

#### Bed elevation data

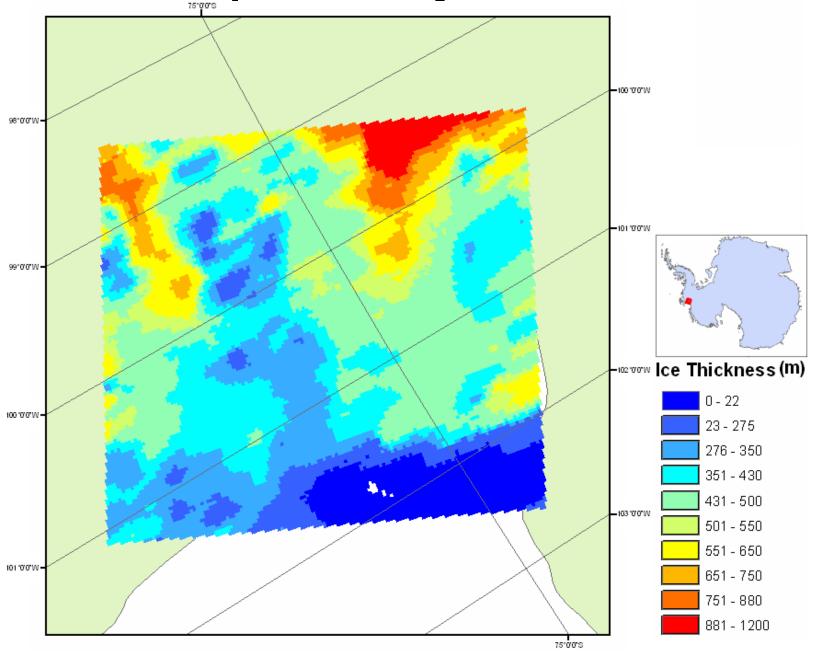
- indexed with GPS coordinates
- about 5-m elevation accuracy

#### Ice thickness and 3-D bed elevation maps

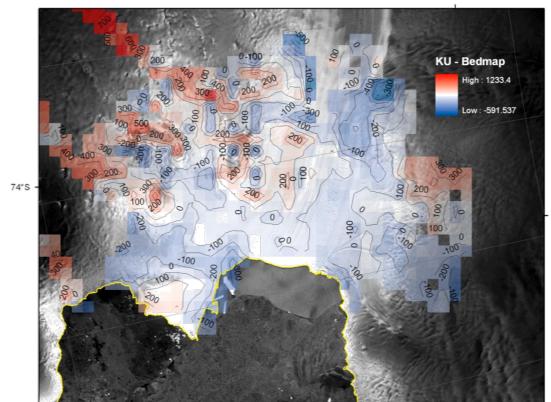
- spatial resolution dependent on surveyed grid density
- post accuracy about 5 m



### Pine Island preliminary ice thickness results



### Pine Island preliminary ice thickness results

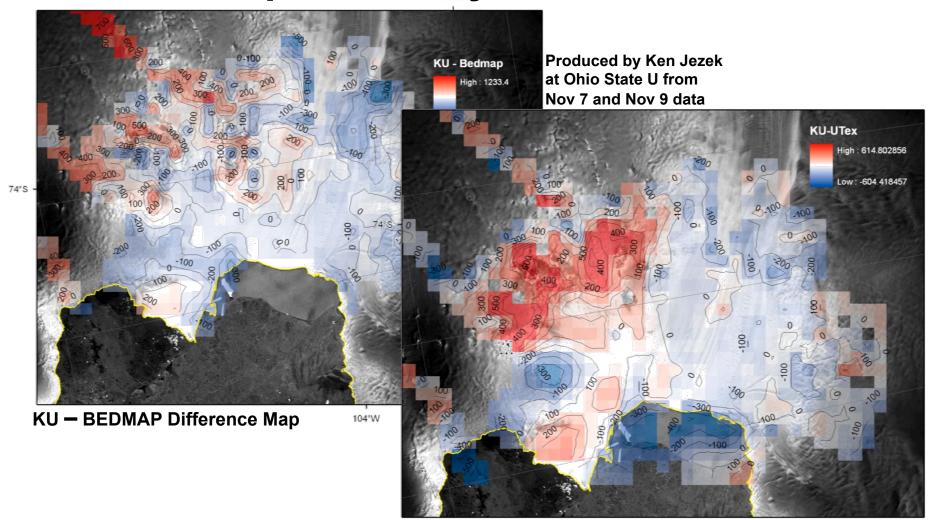


Produced by Ken Jezek at Ohio State U from Nov 7 and Nov 9 data

KU - BEDMAP Difference Map

Shows biases over the Hudson Mountains; favorable agreement over Pine Island Glacier; comparison indicates thinning in upper reaches of the data set.

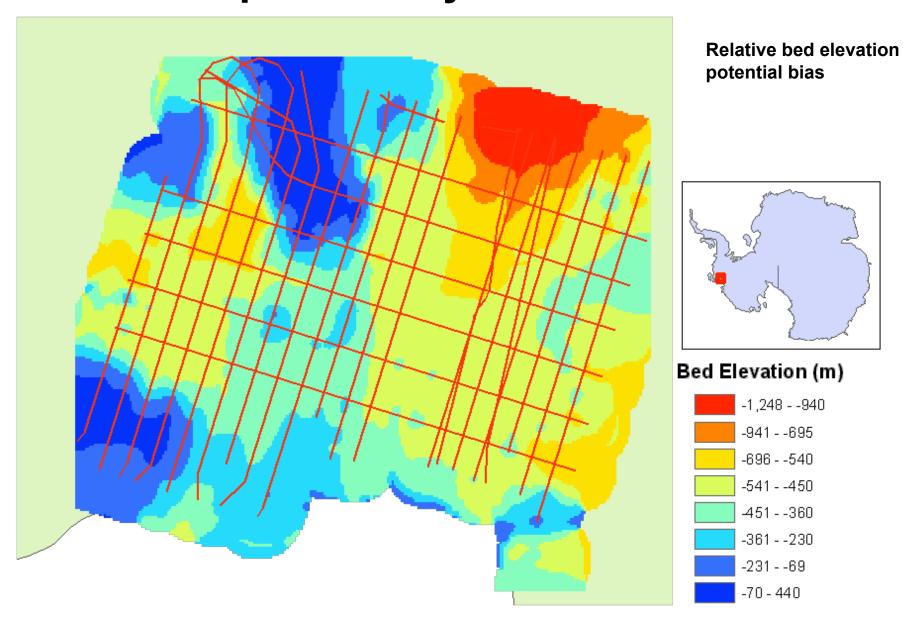
## Pine Island preliminary ice thickness results



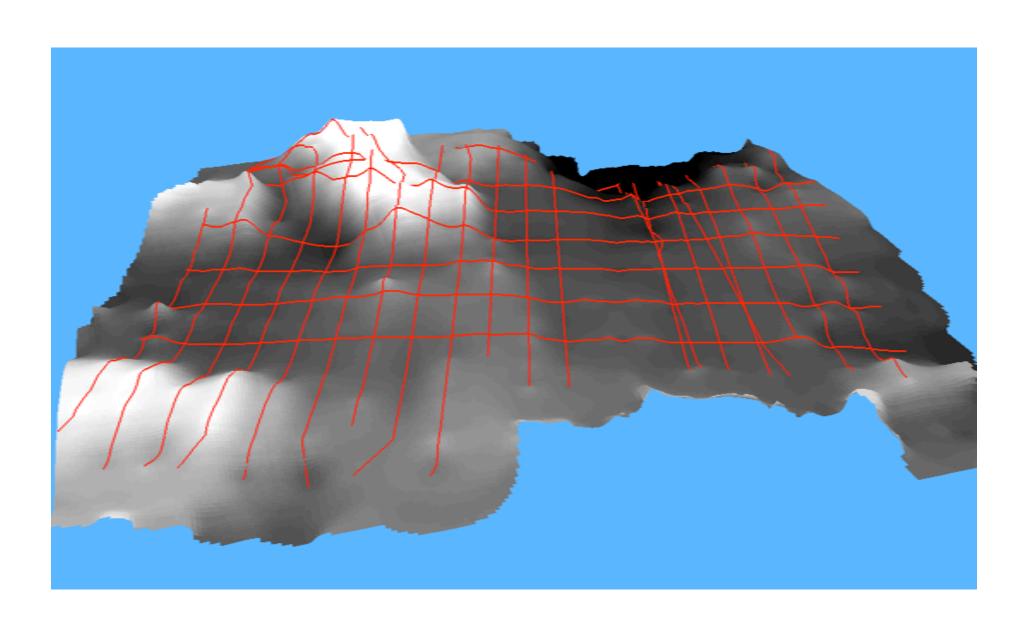
KU – UT Difference Map Shows large differences over Hudson Mountains; excellent agreement on downstream portion of ice shelf. Some thinning suggested in upper reaches of data set.

Texas gridded data report 200-300 m thickness in sea ice filled embayments.

#### Pine Island preliminary bed elevation results



## Pine Island preliminary bed elevation results



#### **Conclusions**

- MCoRDS data processing is on schedule
- Preliminary results from Pine Island geocoded thickness data seem consistent with ice margin location per the ALOS mosaic
- Texas and KU gridded thickness data show evidence for thinning (100 m) on the ice shelf from 2004-2009
- All data sets report substantial ice where there are in fact rocky outcrops.
- U.Texas gridded data show thick glacier ice in what must be sea ice embayments.
- Icebridge and 2004 data segment are systematically different by about 50 m (thinning or a timing bias?)